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FIAE Chapter 3

The overarching theme of this chapter was surrounding assessment, how to use it ,and what it can tell us. One concept it talked about was pre-assessment which is essentially a way to gauge entry knowledge on a given topic. By understanding where students are when entering a class, teachers are then better equipped to find methods to accurately address the student's needs. This concept of using assessment as a tool is consistent throughout the chapter. As students we often look at any type of failure when being assessed as something to be ashamed of or something that will be met with a penalty, as teachers it's important to avoid fostering this kind of learning environment. If a teacher gives a test to assess a classes' understanding of material and the entire class does poorly in a certain area or even on the entire test the teacher can use that as an indicator that they aren't doing an effective job in conveying the material to their students. Individual struggles in assessment can be an effective indicator of changes that can be made by the educator to better help their students as well. If some part of the material is not clear to a particular student and there are patterns of struggle with assessment you can speak with the individual student and discuss strategies to better help the student understand the content. I think making the distinction of using assessment as a means to better understand a classes' grip of the material vs as exclusively a means to grade students is an important one to make.